

Proposed Working Agreement for the California Climate Change Advisory Committee

The members of the California Climate Change Advisory Committee agree to operate by this Working Agreement. This agreement may be amended at any time by consensus of the Advisory Committee.

Purpose

The purpose of this Advisory Committee is to make recommendations to the Energy Commission on the most equitable and efficient ways to implement national and international climate change requirements based on cost, technical feasibility, and relevant information on current energy and air quality policies and activities and on greenhouse gas emissions reductions and trends since 1990. (See Public Resources Code 25730(f)).

Public Participation

In accordance with existing law, the meetings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public, and shall provide an opportunity for the public to be heard on matters considered by the Advisory Committee. (See Public Resources Code Section 25730(f)).

Scope of the Committee's Deliberations

Proposed activities for Advisory Committee examination include:

- Review relevant scientific research on global warming and climate change impacts to California.
- Review projected trends in greenhouse gas emissions by industry sector and for the State of California as a whole.
- Evaluate short- and long-term issues associated with climate change goals for California.
- Review and comment on proposed recommendations to the Governor as part of the West Coast Governor's Global Warming Initiative.
- Make broader policy and program recommendations on the future direction of California's climate change programs, including, but not limited to, the Joint Agency Climate Team, Climate Action Registry, and the state's GHG emissions inventory.
- Review and recommend mitigation strategies and adaptation measures to address the adverse impacts of climate change in California and throughout the West Coast region.

Membership and Responsibilities

The Advisory Committee members represent policy decision-makers in key sectors that will be affected by a global warming strategy. A list of the members is attached. The Energy Commission encourages consistent and regular participation throughout the year-long process. However, if a member cannot make a particular meeting, he or she is encouraged to send an alternate who has been kept informed of the issues and can represent the interests represented by that member.

Responsibilities of members will include:

1. Attend meetings, and if there is an unavoidable absence, each Committee member may send an alternate, provided that person keeps the member informed.

2. Represent the interests of their industry sector or agency, without making any commitment for their organization(s) unless they specifically state that intention.
3. Review materials distributed in advance of each meeting, and respond in a timely manner to any requests for comment or information.
4. Work together to understand the issues involved and the needs and concerns of other members and to search for consensus.
5. Raise issues, concerns and questions in a timely manner during discussions and/or during e-mail exchanges.
6. Regard silence on an issue as consent. Members should indicate areas of disagreement.
7. If a member is undecided and does not speak on an issue, he/she should make that known to the other members.
8. Consider the public input received on all aspects of the draft strategy or recommendations.
9. Support implementation of the portions of the recommended strategy that achieve consensus.
10. Debate policy issues in the Advisory Committee and not in the press. Members will speak to the press only about their own views, and will not attempt to represent or characterize the views of other members or the Advisory Committee.

Chair

The Energy Commission has designated Commissioner James D. Boyd as the Chair of the Advisory Committee. In this role, he will serve as the spokesperson for the Advisory Committee, will work with Staff to organize Committee meetings, and direct Advisory Committee deliberations.

Reporting and Decision-making

The Advisory Committee will submit on or before July 1, 2005, its recommendations to the Governor, Cal EPA, and the Energy Commission. The recommendations will relate to climate change programs and policies that have been agreed to by consensus, identify areas where there is uncertainty or lack of consensus, specify where there is significant support for certain measures or strategies, and reflect the variety of opinions of the Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee will make decisions and provide recommendations by consensus of all members, to the extent possible. Consensus for this purpose means that all members will agree to support the recommendations and their implementation.

This proposed Working Agreement was discussed and approved, as revised by the Advisory Committee, on _____.

SIGNED: